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United States Department of State of hour



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RELEASED IN FULL

7). то:

AF - Townsend Friedman

FROM:

IO - George F. Ward, Jr. Jul

SUBJECT:

Contribution for Rwanda Weekly Report

Herewith IO's contribution to this week's report on Rwanda for Under Secretary Wirth.

UNAMIR.

- o Kigali reports that UNAMIR-GOR/RPA tensions have risen again after a few months of relative harmony. There have been confrontations between UNAMIR troops (mostly the Australians) and the RPA involving GOR obstruction of UN shipments. VP Kagame attributes some of these incidents to Rwanda's lack of pay for the RPA. He also blames the international community's slowness in providing assistance to Rwanda, which has caused the process of justice and reconciliation to lag. However, the DATT says that the real problem is an increase in arbitrary RPA arrests of Internally Displaced Persons recently returned under Operation Retour. SRSG Khan and ForceCom Gen. Tousignant have asked for headquarters advice on UNAMIR's role in security for Operation Retour's returned IDPs, and whether to resume this program.
- o Embassy Addis Ababa reports that the Ethiopian government is reconsidering its intention to withdraw the Ethiopian battalion. The Ethiopians were mollified by the UN's hasty payment of \$4 million (representing initial deployment costs and troop reimbursements through October 1994), and by the UN's willingness to obtain equipment the battalion had asked for last fall. The Ethiopians may have been swayed by our demarche stressing the importance of UNAMIR's mission and their role in it. They cover UNAMIR's toughest sector, the southwest. President Meles told Amb. Hicks that he had not made a final decision to rotate or withdraw the Ethiopian battalion, but first wanted to have Rwandan VP Kagame's thoughts on the political process.

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